

583. / 28. 6

AN
ACCOUNT
OF THE
FRENCH EXPEDITION
TO
EGYPT:

COMPREHENDING
A VIEW OF THE COUNTRY OF
Lower Egypt,
ITS CITIES, MONUMENTS, AND INHABITANTS,
AT
THE TIME OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE FRENCH;

AND
A PARTICULAR DESCRIPTION AND MEASUREMENT OF
Pompey's Pillar,

ILLUSTRATED BY A PLATE.

BY CHARLES NORRY, *K*

Member of the Philotechnical Society, and one of the Architects
attached to the Expedition.

TRANSLATED FROM THE FRENCH.

LONDON:

Printed by S. GOSNELL, Little Queen Street, Holborn,
OR JAMES RIDGWAY, YORK STREET, ST. JAMES'S SQUARE.

1800.

ACCOUNT

OF THE

FRANCIS A. LINDSAY

EGYPT

A VOLUME OF THE EGYPTIAN

RECORDS

OF THE EGYPTIAN

AT

THE TIME OF THE

AND

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

OF THE EGYPTIAN

(2)

AN

ACCOUNT

OF THE

EXPEDITION TO EGYPT.

PART FIRST.

A SECRET expedition was prepared; all those who were to compose it had repaired to *Toulon*, on the 20th Floreal of the 6th year (9th May 1798). A general bustle enlivened that town; brave legions, excellent generals, celebrated men of science, artists and mechanics, in the midst of a crowd of sailors, were waiting for the moment to embark. The harbour and the road were covered with ships. General *Buonaparte*, the soul of the expedition, had just arrived. He visited the squadron, which was decorated with flags for his reception. In short, we waited for nothing but a wind, which on the 30th (19th May) became fair; the signal gun for getting under way was fired; the sails were unfurled, and on the 1st of Prairial (20th May) we left the road

B

with

with fifteen ships of war, accompanied by upwards of two hundred sail of transports. Curiosity had attracted a great number of people to the sea-side to see us sail out, and the music from our ships was heard at a great distance. Our voyage was fortunate, but long; the necessity we were under of waiting for the transports in order to protect them, often obliged us to lie to. We passed in sight of the islands of Corsica, Sardinia, and Sicily. After twenty days' sail, we discovered Gozzo (the island of Calypso). On the 21st (9th June) we were off *Malta*, where we found a convoy of upwards of sixty sail, which had come from *Civita Vecchia* to join us. On the 22d at eight o'clock in the morning, hostilities commenced; on the 23d there was a suspension of arms; on the 24th the articles of capitulation were signed, and on the 25th we entered the harbour.

While the General was destroying the political power of *Malta*, and organizing that place, which is perhaps the strongest in the world, we went on shore, and were employed in examining its admirable fortifications. The beauty of the town, constructed of the stone of the rock upon which it stands; the solidity and regularity of the buildings; the interior means there combined to supply them with water, which is brought from a distance of several miles by an aqueduct; as well as those employed to discharge the filth by subterraneous

terraneous canals; all excited our admiration. We visited several handsome edifices: the church of *St. John*, the ceilings of which are covered with paintings by *Calabrezi*; the palace of the Grand Master, where is placed one of the finest meridians known; and near it a library, containing some valuable manuscripts, as well as a few fragments of Phenician and Greek monuments.

Having left at *Malta* a garrison of three thousand men, and taken on board our fleet a legion of Maltese, and some hundreds of Turks, who were there in slavery, we left the harbour on the 1st of Messidor (19th June), and made sail for the island of *Candia*. The English, who had been in quest of us from the time of our leaving *Toulon*, where they had missed us, arrived off the harbour of *Malta* two days after our departure. They there saw the three-coloured flag flying, and immediately steered the most direct course for *Alexandria*. As we were to the left of them, they passed on without falling in with us, and arrived off that city. The Turks refused to let them enter the harbour. They waited for us two days in that position; when not seeing us arrive, they thought that we were perhaps in the Archipelago, or off *Alexandretta*, whither they eagerly directed their route. Scarcely were they gone, before we arrived in sight of the *Towers of the Arabs*, ten leagues from *Alexandria*. It was then the 13th of Messidor (1st July), and forty-three

days had elapsed since we had left *Toulon*, *Magallon*, the Consul of France, the nephew of *Magallon* who belonged to the expedition, came on board the Admiral's ship (*L'Orient*), in which was General *Buonaparte*, and informed him of the unexpected appearance of the English. The Admiral immediately placed his squadron in a position fit to sustain a battle, in case they should suddenly return; and that same day, in spite of a boisterous sea, the boats of all the ships put on shore between four and five thousand men, who landed near *Marabon*, and marched towards *Pompey's Pillar*; being led on by the General in Chief, Generals *Desaix*, *Kléber*, *Menou*, &c. They had neither artillery nor cavalry. General *Buonaparte* drew up his little army in three columns, and placed himself, with General *Kléber*, at the head of the centre column. On the 14th (2d July) they marched from *Pompey's Pillar* against *Alexandria*, drove out the Mamelukes and Arabs that defended the walls of the city, and entered it, after having killed about three hundred of them. The transports were immediately brought into shelter in the old port, and the general debarkation then took place. A few days after, the men of war being exposed to a heavy sea, and not being able to enter the old port, the depth of which had not then been sounded, weighed, and ran for the roadstead of *Aboukir*. The English did not make their appearance as had been expected. At length,

on

on the 16th (4th July), we were all settled in *Alexandria*; and on the 19th (7th July) every thing was there organized. That same day the General in Chief quitted the city*, and left the command to General *Kléber*, who had been wounded in the head by a musket-ball during the battle.

Hitherto the soldiers, lying down as they could in the streets, sought a shade against a heat of twenty-six degrees, as well as to defend themselves from the muskitoes. They cut down the trunks of a wood of palm-trees situated near the town, and with their branches, and a few stakes, made themselves a camp upon the shore. As for us, we procured lodgings at the houses of five or six Europeans. Except in the street, we had no communication with the Turks, who were not subjected to make any sort of provision for the army. We respected their customs, their houses, and their temples; only, in the exercise of their laws and their police, they were subordinate to the commanding officer of the place†.

The

* *Buonaparte*, on his arrival, assembled all those who had any authority: he explained to them the motives of the invasion of *Egypt*, required of them an oath not to betray the French, and left several of them in possession of the employments they exercised. One of them, *Coraim*, became a traitor, and kept up a correspondence with the Mamelukes. He was carried to Cairo, and there tried and beheaded.

† A few disturbances caused at *Malta* by the soldiery, had induced General *Buonaparte* to make some severe regulations,

The General proceeded across the Desert *, marching his army in two lines, part against *Rosetta*, of which he wished to get possession, and part against *Rhamanié*, a town situated upon the bank of the Nile, where the cut of the canal of *Alexandria* commences. After having left a garrison at *Rosetta* †, where he met with no resistance, and another at *Rhamanié*, he ascended the river, having a flotilla to attend the army, for the purpose of carrying provisions and ammunition, and of fighting that of the Mamelukes, which he chased to several points, and defeated in several encounters, as well as some corps of Arabs that harassed him. He continued his march as far as the neighbourhood of *Gizab*, where *Murad Bey* had collected all his forces, and drawn up his army near the village called

regulations, which had been read on board all the ships. Among other articles, it was ordained that whoever should introduce himself into the houses of the Turks, violate their women, or enter the mosques, should be shot. Every thing was respected. It happened that none of these regulations, so necessary for the safety of an army, were transgressed.

* The troops not having been sufficiently careful of the provisions they had received for crossing the Desert, experienced the most pressing wants; and the heat that prevailed completely exhausted them. On their arrival upon the banks of the Nile, they had abundance of every thing; corn, pigeons, milk, and water-melons. The peasants, who are equally stupid and ignorant, preferred being paid for what they sold with glittering coat-buttons, instead of crown pieces and other coin.

† He there left General *Menou*, as commander of part of Lower Egypt.

Embabeh. General *Buonaparte*, on his side, made the necessary preparations, and gained that famous battle* called *the Battle of the Pyramids*. Part of the army of the Mamelukes was exterminated; another part was drowned in the Nile, they throwing themselves into it in their flight; the remainder dispersed towards Upper Egypt, in order to rally under *Murad Bey*, who escaped in the general defeat.

The General in Chief soon received deputations of the principal persons of *Cairo*, and of the chief ministers of religion; the inhabitants of that city, the populace of which had, during the battle, pillaged the houses of the *Beys* and *Kiaschefs*, shewed him every submission. The army crossed the Nile in a crowd of boats, and entered the city in triumph. *Ibrahim Bey*, the competitor and the secret enemy of *Murad*, had prepared to set off in case the battle should end unfavourably to him: he had provided a rich caravan composed of his women†, his treasures, and his

* When this battle was over, the soldiers obtained a great deal of booty from the persons of the Mamelukes that were killed. The army likewise took near five hundred Arabian horses, and as many camels.

† His lawful wife had taken under her protection twenty-seven Frenchmen who had been apprehended at *Cairo* on the news of the invasion. She had placed them in her house. When she set off to join her husband, she left them provisions and arms, recommending them to be upon their guard even against her own servants. This virtuous and humane woman departed with her husband.

his slaves. He fled towards *Syria*, protected by the Mamelukes, and was followed thither by the Pasha of the Grand Signior, resident at *Cairo*. *Buonaparte*, after having ordered General *Desaix* to pursue *Murad Bey* without intermission towards Upper Egypt, where he had first taken refuge, and after having left part of the army in the city, marched against *Ibrahim*, who reached the deserts of *Syria* time enough to make his escape; but he fell upon his rear, and cut in pieces some of his men. He returned immediately, and in his march back he had an opportunity of rescuing from the hands of the Arabs of the desert the caravan of *Morocco*, which was accompanied by some pilgrims from *Mecca*. This rich prize, of which these plunderers had already got possession, was restored to the merchants. He then re-entered *Cairo*, where he was employed in making general and particular arrangements for the interior administration of Lower Egypt. He had already sent a garrison to *Damietta*, and another to *Mansouras*, a town remarkable on account of the disasters that there befell the army of the Crusades under *St. Lewis*. He did not omit to have lazarettos established at *Alexandria* and *Damietta*, that every vessel coming from the seaports of the Levant might be compelled to perform quarantine, in order to prevent in band. No accident happened to the twenty-seven Frenchmen, who left their place of concealment after the success of the battle.

future

future every germ of pestilential disorder from being introduced from other parts. At the same time, he ordered, as a measure of health, that the houses and streets should be carefully washed and cleaned, and the merchandise and clothing should be well aired; precautions dictated by a wise foresight. Indeed, the example of fifteen or twenty Turks dying of the plague at the time of our arrival*, rendered this a matter of necessity.

The Nile now swelled and overflowed its banks: the General, with all the pomp that is annually practised, opened the canal which conveys the water of that river through the city of *Cairo*. At the same time, he ordered storehouses to be built at *Gizab* for the artillery, and for the different purposes of the army. Administrations were established at *Cairo*, and a mint for coining money. The relative value of all the pieces we had brought from Europe had recently been determined. Tables of them had been printed, and posted up every where, in order that commerce might suffer no inconvenience.

All these things were going on, and on the 11th of Thermidor (29th July) we learnt at *Alexandria* the successes of the General, his return to *Cairo*, and the sequel of his operations. We had been a long time without being informed of them; several of his cou-

* This dreadful disorder generally ends at this period of the year; and when it breaks out it begins about the month of Germinal (middle of March).

riers had been murdered upon the banks of the Nile bringing the news that he sent us, and the dispatches he forwarded to Admiral *Bruyes*, advising him to enter the old port, if it would admit his squadron*, or otherwise to go to *Corfu* or *Malta*. On receiving the news of the success of our army, we made rejoicings; and on the day it was announced we had a public *fête*. We were not, however, altogether free from uneasiness. In fact, on the 5th of Thermidor (23d July), seven or eight days before, we had seen an English frigate, which had come and surveyed our position, and disappeared. We daily expected to see the enemy's squadron. On the 14th Thermidor (1st August), at five o'clock in the afternoon, it arrived off the harbour of *Alexandria*. It steered away for *Aboukir* under a crowd of sail. The most favourable wind that could blow carried it towards our fleet, which was badly moored, and which it doubled at half past six. The engagement immediately began; at eight o'clock the Admiral was wounded; at nine he was cut in two by a shot; at half past nine his ship caught fire, but she continued fighting desperately; about a quarter past ten she blew up with a dreadful noise and explosion. The action was suspended for a quarter of an hour: the silence of terror and death every where reigned. The

* This had been found possible, except for the *Orient*, which ship it was necessary to lighten, by taking out her lower deck guns.

engagement was then renewed with unexampled fury and perseverance. The moon was at the full; the stars shone in the heavens: never was there so fine and so still a night; never was there a night that witnessed so bloody a battle. The dawn of day appeared, and the ardour of the combatants seemed nowise diminished. Nine English ships were dismasted; two of them were very much damaged; but the greater part of ours were either taken or destroyed; and in spite of the prodigies of valour performed by several brave captains killed or wounded in the action*, the unfavourable position of the fleet, the inferiority of the crews in point of number, the explosion of the Admiral's ship, the confusion that ensued as to the command, by which each captain was reduced to the necessity of defending his ship separately; every thing proved fatal to us. There still remained a division of two sail of the line and two frigates, that had not been at all in the action*. The Chief of Division *Villeneuve*, who commanded it, seeing our losses at daylight, and finding himself upon the point of being attacked by too superior an enemy, resolved to cut his cables and put to sea. He made sail, and repaired to the harbour of *Malta*. *Le-*

* *Buonaparte*, in honour of the memory of Captain *Du Petit Thouars*, who had fought and died like a hero, gave his name to the largest street in *Cairo*.

† *Le Guillaume Tell*, *Le Généreux*, with *La Justice* and *La Diane* frigates.

joielle, one of the captains of his division, who commanded *Le Généreux*, in his way thither, fell in with the *Leander*, an English fifty-gun ship, that was dispatched by Admiral *Nelson* to carry to Lord *St. Vincent* the news of our defeat: he engaged her, and carried her into the harbour of *Corfu*.

This dreadful battle, of which we had been eye-witnesses from the roofs of our houses at *Alexandria*, that were covered with spectators, had thrown us into a profound melancholy. We felt the fatal consequences to which it would lead, by making the Turks our enemies, as well as the Moors; by renewing the coalition in Europe; by isolating us more from the mother-country; lastly, by destroying, in some measure, the admiration produced on shore by our army. But our energy revived; and General *Kléber* set the example. He immediately ordered the posts to be put in a state of defence. Till now there had been no opportunity of attending to this point. The general debarkation, the batteries that had been erected on the heights which command the town, and the conveyance of the artillery that it had been necessary to send to the army, had prevented our fortifying the harbours. We therefore lost no time: we every where placed guns so as to cross the fire of each other, constructed furnaces for heating shot, and supplied all the posts with whatever was necessary; in short, we worked without intermission, and in a few days we were

were secure from every attempt on the part of the English, who with some of their line of battle ships might have come and destroyed the five frigates that were in the Old Port, and the three hundred sail of transports and victuallers.

General *Buonaparte* soon learnt the event of the unfortunate naval engagement; he expressed his regret, by loudly repeating the advice he had given to Admiral *Brueys*, to bring his fleet into one of our harbours; he then said with coolness and resolution: “ *Well, the loss of this battle will make us perform greater exploits!* ”

It was now the 20th of Thermidor (7th August); but if we had just experienced a serious loss, on the other hand, we were masters of all Lower Egypt; the action of the government was there becoming regular; and as I have already mentioned, *Murad Bey* alone, with about eighteen hundred Mamelukes, was still defending himself in Upper Egypt, where he was closely pursued by General *Desaix*, who but for the overflowing of the Nile, which he was ascending in a flotilla with his army, would have defeated him sooner. *Murad*, by means of the inundation, forced him to make marches and counter-marches; but at length General *Desaix* beat him in several rencounters, and shortly reduced him to the condition of a mere fugitive.

In observing our situation from this period, it was a curious and extremely interesting circumstance,

circumstance, to see a numerous colony of Frenchmen living under the beautiful sky of Egypt, almost as much inured to the climate, at the end of six weeks, as to that of their own country*. But it must be remarked, that this sky, which is burning by day, is tempered at night by a north wind†, which it is delightful to inhale; that the earth is there refreshed by copious dews, which restore life to the parched-up vegetables; that the provisions are wholesome, and at a price which the most indigent can easily attain.

But if that country be considered with a view to colonial productions and commerce, what advantages would it not afford? It would become a source of wealth to France and to Italy. Of the variety of its produce, no person is ignorant: it is well known, that coffee and sugar-canes grow there of an excellent quality; that the indigo is very fine; that cochineal might there be cultivated; that it abounds in hemp, in flax of a soft and silky quality, in rice and in corn; that the olive-tree, the citron, the gum acacia, &c. grow there almost without culture; that it furnishes

* After the first effects of the heat, which incommoded us for a few weeks, we were, in general, in pretty good health; even the severest wounds of the soldiery healed perfectly well.

† In Germinal, Floreal, and Prairial (from the middle of March to the middle of June), the south wind prevails; it is hot, and frequently unhealthy; it brings, especially from the Desert, a burning dust, which is very troublesome in Lower Egypt.

a number

a number of different salts, ammoniac, salt-petre, and particularly natron. How greatly would these productions be augmented in the hands of active colonists! If we succeeded in the course of time, in repairing the ancient canals, and in cutting new ones, in order more easily to transmit by way of Egypt, part of the stuffs of Bengal, and of the productions of Asia, no doubt Egypt would become a favourite colony, and supply the place of the West India colonies, which for a long time will not be sufficiently peopled; especially as we have, by our principles, renounced the slave-trade; while here, the native*, under the sky where he was born, quietly cultivates the soil with little trouble, and less danger. Besides, we cannot doubt, but that a good government would speedily improve that fertile country, the inhabitants of which have been for such a length of time oppressed by the rod of the four-and-twenty tyrants, who, as well as their barbarous Mamelukes, have lately been killed, or forced to fly.

As to the obstacles which seem to be apprehended from the hordes of Bedouin Arabs, who come out of the deserts† in order to plunder

* Notwithstanding the depopulation occasioned by despotism, and by the fatalism which prevents this people from using proper remedies against disorders, the population of Egypt, is, even at this day, estimated at about four millions of inhabitants, two thirds of whom are composed of Arabs, and the remaining third comprises the Copts, and the different foreign sects.

† It has often been asked, if it is not possible to reduce these

der the caravans upon the roads, and even at the gates of the towns, a vigorous government would drive them into the interior of their solitude; and if the government carry on, exclusively, the trade of sulphur, which is drawn only from other countries, they will be obliged to relinquish the use of fire-arms, and will no longer venture to attack travellers, when they are reduced to employ arrows.

After this digression concerning the advantages which may be conceived from the possession of Egypt, I shall resume my subject, and briefly relate the sequel of the first operations that took place to establish us in that country.

The English, after this engagement, had refitted their ships in the road of *Aboukir*, and burnt several of ours which they could not carry away. Admiral *Nelson*, at the time of his return to Europe, had left one of the divisions of his squadron to cruise off the port of *Alexandria*, under the command of Captain *Hood*. It was no longer possible to go by sea from *Rosetta* to that harbour; and the service of the Egyptian craft, called *germs*, which are these Arabs, and if they are numerous. Their number is estimated at from thirty to forty thousand, divided into a number of tribes. As most of them live in the deserts, it may be conceived, that it is not possible long to pursue them there; the troops would want water and provisions, and would be suffocated by the sand. It has been ineffectually attempted, at different periods, to make war against them. Besides, it would not perhaps be impossible to civilize the greater part of them by degrees.

accustomed to carry provisions from *Rosetta* to *Alexandria*, was consequently interrupted. To supply their place, there had been established a caravan, which twice each decade crossed the Desert, carried all those necessaries, and afforded travellers the means of going to or coming from *Cairo*. In order to protect it against the *Bedouins*, a legion had been formed of sailors who had escaped from the engagement, and was stationed at *Aboukir* to furnish escorts. But a more speedy and less expensive method was necessary for victualling *Alexandria*, than that which was effected upon the backs of camels. The General in Chief, some time before, had given orders for cleansing the canal of *Alexandria*, which every year, at the time of the overflowing of the Nile, conveys the water from *Rhamanié* to that city, across a desert of fifteen or sixteen leagues. This canal, of unequal levels, and for a long time obstructed, was rendered navigable; and when the Nile was high enough for running into it (about the 10th of Vendémiaire, 1st October), a great number of lighters loaded with grain and other provisions, supplied the necessities of *Alexandria*. Thus that town received at once, water for filling the cisterns, which contain a sufficient quantity to last the whole year, and provisions in abundance. During the twenty, or five-and-twenty days that this canal could float the lighters, there was also sent by it, a considerable quantity of artillery, to be afterwards forwarded

D

warded by the river, as far as *Gizah*, where the grand park was established. In vain had the English bribed the Arabs, who came by hordes, and made lateral cuts in the canal, for turning off the water, and bringing the lighters aground, in order to plunder them; General *Marmont*, at the head of a demi-brigade, was perpetually in quest of them: they could only disturb our operations, but were unable to impede them.

During this time, the General in Chief was continuing to form military and civil establishments. At *Belbeis* and at *Salbaïé*, he caused forts and redoubts to be erected, for counter-acting any invasion from the Turks on the side of the deserts of Syria. A very beautiful plan of *Alexandria* and its ports had been drawn; a similar one of *Cairo* was laying down, for the purpose of making improvements in that irregular and inconvenient city. He formed a grand establishment for the assemblage of different mechanical arts. The men of science and the artists had been sent for. He had been attended by several of the most distinguished, particularly by Citizens *Monge*, *Berthollet*, *Geoffroy*, &c. a part of the members for the Commission of Arts and Sciences accompanying the expedition, for the purpose of forming an Institute. Being himself a member of this society, he repaired to their sittings, which took place twice each decade. Among the labours to which this assemblage applied themselves, those which

were

were interesting to the establishment of the colony, occupied them almost exclusively. They examined reports upon the purification of saltpetre, upon the construction of different wind-mills and water-mills*, upon hydraulic machines, upon means of extracting from the water of the cisterns which are found upon the borders of the Desert, the salts which render it brackish. They studied the means of improving the making of bread, and of fermented liquors as a substitute for wine, which was not to be had; they likewise read memoirs upon some points of natural philosophy, natural history, the arts, antiquities, &c.

There had been erected in the great square *Desbequier*, decorations of obelisks and triumphal arches for the celebration of the anniversary of the Republic (the 1st of Vendemiaire). At *Alexandria*, *Cleopatra's Needles* and *Pompey's Pillar* were decorated in honour of the day; the three-coloured flag was flying upon their summits; wherever the French were, this *fête* was solemnized. The *Sheicks*, the members of the Divan, were present at that of *Cairo*, where military evolutions were performed in the morning; in the afternoon, there were races of Arabian and French

* In this country, small hand-mills, or large ones worked by oxen, are made use of; the flour is very coarsely ground. The mill-stones employed, are taken from the ancient columns, which are cut into circular pieces.

horses; and at night, fire-works and illuminations*.

About the same time, the *Sheicks* or Governors of different provinces of Egypt, had assembled at *Cairo* upon the invitation of the General in Chief. Questions upon the laws of succession, hitherto arbitrary, upon the amelioration of those of the penal code, upon the organization of the Divans in the different provinces of Egypt, as well as upon the finances, had recently been presented to them by Citizens *Monge* and *Berthollet*, who presided at this national assembly as Commissioners of the French Government. This assembly pursued its deliberations in the greatest tranquillity, and with all the dignity becoming the important operations on which it was employed. Also about this time, accounts were received of the defeat of a party, that, at the instigation of *Ibrahim Bey*, had occasioned movements in the *Delta*, at no very great distance from *Damietta*. Generals *Val*, *Damas*, and *Dagna* had dispersed the rebels. *Murad Bey* had also been defeated by General *Desaix*, who had killed four hundred of his Mamelukes, near the Pyramids of *Saccara*, where he had overtaken him. Every thing appeared quiet, when on the morning of the 30th of Vendemiaire

* It had been intended to send up a balloon; but part of the articles necessary for its construction had been mislaid on board the ships; some time afterwards, measures were taken for supplying their place.

(21st October), assemblies of people in several spots gave indications of an approaching insurrection. General *Dupuis*, who commanded at *Cairo*, went out almost alone to disperse these mobs; he was assassinated, as well as several military men, and two officers of health, who were coming out of an hospital upon the square of *Berquetfil*. All the French instantly took up arms: the insurrection broke out every where with violence; the insurgents advanced on all sides; some assembled in several mosques, others ran to murder Frenchmen who lived in distant parts of the city. They went in great numbers to the house of General *Caffarelli*, the commanding officer of Engineers, who was absent at the time; they besieged it, and forced their way into it, and a few unfortunate Engineers, in spite of their brave defence, were massacred by these hell-hounds, who afterwards destroyed the philosophical instruments and the tools deposited there some days before. The troops soon put a stop to this torrent; batteries were immediately placed in all quarters; the Arabs and Turks were pursued without intermission, and put to death wherever they could be found. They fled, and barricaded themselves in the mosques; General *Buonaparte* ordered them to be summoned to instantly give up their leaders, as the price of their pardon; and upon their refusal, they were treated as rebels, and reduced to submission, after several thousands of them had been sacrificed.

It

It must be observed, that while this was passing at *Cairo*, some movements took place off the harbour of *Alexandria*; the English, the Russians, and two Turkish vessels which had just arrived, had every appearance of meditating an attack. The garrison, and every Frenchman in the civil departments, as well as the Europeans in the harbour, having taken up arms, interior commotion was checked, and our exterior enemies did not attempt any enterprize. From the coincidence of these movements, it cannot be doubted that the English, who had just induced the Turks to declare war against us, had organized them. The presence of two Turkish ships which were off *Alexandria*, revived the hopes of the leading people of Egypt, and of their adherents; and although the firman of war was not yet known, they had fomented these insurrections under cover of the mosques, into which the General had not till then permitted any Frenchman to enter, in order that the customs of the Mahometans might not be broken in upon or disturbed. Besides, these movements, which were attended with disagreeable consequences only at *Cairo*, have served to strengthen us in Egypt; they have made the misled people acquainted with the power of our arms, and have procured us some auxiliaries. Hitherto the Greeks had taken no part in our cause; on the day of the insurrection they ranged themselves on our side; and shook off the yoke of the slavery which they have so long

long endured under the Turkish government ; they attacked them, and courageously conquered them in all quarters. We may therefore draw this necessary conclusion, that the Greeks will be our faithful auxiliaries in Egypt, and that every European there will enlist under our banners.

The most perfect order was re-established. On the 3d of Brumaire (24th October) the General in Chief continued to prepare forces for carrying his arms against some unknown point, though public rumour supposed it to be towards *Syria*. General *Kléber*, who had for some time past been cured of his wound, went up to *Cairo* at this time. He had given up the command of *Alexandria*, and had left it for a little while in the hands of General *Manfscourb*, who soon resigned it to General *Marmont*. It was at this period that an English cartel, charged with a letter for General *Buonaparte*, brought information of the firman of war of the Grand Signior: this paper was printed. Eight days after, about the 14th Brumaire (4th November), an *Aga*, sent from *Cairo* by the General in Chief, went on board the Turks, and after having a long conference with them, returned to the harbour. Nothing transpired of this envoy's mission.

About a month before, I had obtained the General's permission to return to Europe, on account of the deranged state of my health. A small vessel carrying a government courier,
got

got under way the 20th Brumaire (10th November); I availed myself of this opportunity to get a passage, and quitted Egypt, where every thing was then quiet, and our military positions were upon the most respectable footing.

END OF PART FIRST.

PART

PART SECOND.

HAVING presented the reader with an historical epitome of the expedition, to the period of my departure, I now proceed to give a succinct narrative of the arrival at *Alexandria* of most of the members of the Commission of Arts and Sciences, of the excursions made by them through that city and its environs, of the route from *Alexandria* to *Cairo*, of the visit we made to the pyramids of *Giza*, of my return to *Alexandria* on the 18th Brumaire (8th November 1798), and lastly, of my voyage to *Ancona*, a sea-port in Italy.

On the 16th Messidor (4th July) we landed, in order to proceed to *Alexandria*. We arrived in that city, in a very tumultuous manner, after having traversed the frightful ruins of the district occupied by the Arabs, and some barren sands, occasionally interspersed with a few palm-trees, fig-trees, and salt-wort kali. We endeavoured to procure in the houses of the Europeans at *Alexandria* apartments in which to rest. As the Turks were not obliged to provide us with any accommodation, we were under the necessity of lodging ten or twelve in one chamber, on account of the small number of rooms that

could be found for so many persons. The excessive heat this produced, the bad food we were obliged to eat*, the cistern water, which, from its dirtiness and acrid taste, we found altogether disgusting, the mosquitoes that tormented us night and day; every thing, in short, concurred to render the first month of our residence dreadfully inconvenient. We slept upon bad mattresses, and most of us indeed upon planks, or mats; ourselves dressing the provisions distributed to us, and having for the purpose of cooking no other utensils but earthen vessels. But it is an old observation, that man can accustom himself to every thing. Our minds were occupied by matters very different. We immediately hastened to satisfy that eager curiosity excited in every foreigner on his first arrival in a country so celebrated in history. We looked for the *Alexandria* of *Alexander*, built by the architect *Dinocrates*; we looked for that city in which were born, or educated, so many great men, that library in which the *Ptolomies* had concentrated the collection of human knowledge; in a word, we looked for that commercial city and its active and industrious inhabitants; but we found in every quarter only

* On our first arrival, the markets being insufficient to supply us with necessaries, provisions were distributed to us from the different ships. The biscuits were very mouldy, and the salt meat almost in a state of putrefaction. Some time after, however, we had abundance of good bread, mutton, fowls, pigeons, fish, &c.

ruins, barbarism, debasement, and poverty: ferocious men with enormous beards, carrying in their hands long pipes, most of them indolently seated in the squares or coffee-houses, or walking along with the most apathetic gravity*; women dressed in coarse blue tunics, their face covered with an ugly mask of black stuff, allowing only their eyes to be seen, and having not only their eyelashes but their eyebrows painted black, their legs and feet naked, their nails dyed with bright red, avoiding us, and running away, as if they had beheld so many demons, or savages; children naked, lean, and ill-conditioned; and, lastly, the public markets (*bazards*) filthily disgusting. Shocked at this sight, we went to visit the remains of antiquity. We every where found columns of granite, some still standing, others promiscuously lying prostrate in the streets and squares, and even on the sea-shore, where they formed considerable piles; Egyptian monuments covered with hieroglyphics, serving for thresholds of doors, or benches used for seats. We saw some particular *bazards*, the courts of which were adorned with columns of different sorts of marble, and some of them even of porphyry. The capitals were by these barbarians often employed as bases, and

* The men in easy circumstances, for the most part, shut themselves up, or had fled; and we saw none of the women of this class, they being carefully confined under lock and key.

reciprocally, the bases as capitals. We saw the mosque called the *Septant*, or mosque of a thousand columns; the surrounding walls are partly destroyed, and most of the columns thrown down and broken. We went to visit another deserted mosque, which served as an hospital for our sailors that were wounded at the battle of Aboukir. This is perhaps the most beautiful Egyptian monument now in existence: it consists of a dome of fine black marble, resembling basalt, three mètres and 16 centimètres (nine feet 10 inches*) in length, by one mètre, 62 centimètres (five feet) in width, and one mètre 13 centimètres (three feet six inches) in height, charged with thousands of hieroglyphics. Here were to be seen figures of men and women, and of a multitude of the animals deified by the ancient Egyptians, such as the sparrow-hawk, the ibis, the lion, &c. all engraved with the perfection of antique seals. Undoubtedly this monument will be transported to the museum of Paris; at least it is already intended that it shall on a future day be one of its ornaments. It may weigh about 28,805 hectogrammes 46 centigrammes (6,000,000 of pounds).

Beyond the city, at the east gate of *Alexandria*, we examined some curious baths, cut out in the rock, and into which the sea has made its way. One of these baths has been,

* The Paris foot is equal to 12.798 English measure.

no person knows why, dignified with the name of *Cleopatra's bath*. They are simple grottoes, without form or proportion. At some farther distance are catacombs excavated in calcareous rocks, and which appear to have been made by the Romans. On the other side of the city lie the ruins of an ancient palace: near these ruins stands the obelisk of *Cleopatra*, buried 4 m. 87 c. (15 feet) in the sand, a monument of granite 20 m. 42 c. (63 feet) in height, and which had been rebuilt, as we were satisfied, from digging, in order to discover the antique pavement. There is another obelisk of the same proportion, 25 paces from the former, and both of them 19 m. 47 c. (10 toises) from the sea. We measured *Pompey's pillar*, a column of the Corinthian order, which some authors assert to have been erected in honour of *Septimius Severus*, by the senate which he had established at *Alexandria*. It is a monument of granite 28 m. 8 c. (89 feet 6 inches) in height, divided into four parts—the pedestal, base, shaft, and capitals: the shaft consisting of a single block of the most beautiful shape and of the highest polish, about 20 m. 78 c. (64 feet) in height, by 2 m. 79 c. (8 feet 4 inches) in diameter. We found means to get ourselves hoisted up, by slings and ropes, to that column, the most colossal in the known world. From the top of its capital we discovered, to the south, the site of the lake

lake *Mareotis*, at present covered by the sands of *Libya*; on the other side the ruins of the whole extent of the city of the Arabs, and the vast sea of which our enemies have made themselves masters.

After having finished the operations at *Alexandria*, with which we had been entrusted, we quitted, without regret, that city, now reduced to a population of 8 or 9000 inhabitants, consisting of different sects. The town is besides ill built; its best ornament a few miserable turrets; but its ports will unquestionably sooner or later ensure its greater prosperity. We set out in a caravan, mounted upon asses, travelling before our baggage-camels, all well provided with arms and provisions, and particularly with water. We traversed 67 kilomètres (15 leagues) of desert, in the midst of which we had, for a space of 27 kilomètres (6 leagues) along the beach of Aboukir, the pain of trampling under foot the wrecks of our unfortunate fleet. This frightful spectacle renewed our distress, which was still farther increased, on seeing the remains of ships and boats and entire masts fallen into the power of the Arabs of the Desert, who were come thither to set fire to them, in order to get out the iron; they retired into the sands, while the caravan was passing, in order that they might not be discovered, and immediately returned, to continue their pillage.

After

After having been forty hours upon our journey, in which we made only occasionally some halts, we arrived at *Rosetta*, a town situated one myriamètre (two leagues) from the sea, on the left bank of the Nile, tolerably well built, and surrounded by gardens agreeably cultivated. The mind expands at the view of the river which washes its walls. From the town itself is to be seen the immense carpet which forms the *Delta*, and the rich culture of its banks. Here we found nature productive, and no longer arid and burning sands, the reflection of which wounded the sight. Here were to be seen beautiful date-trees, mulberry-leaved Egyptian fig-trees, with their extended branches, slender acacias, lofty orange-trees, pomegranates, agreeable jasmynes, and a thousand other different vegetable productions. It was now the 27th Fructidor (13th September). The Nile was still rising: we ascended it with a fresh breeze; our boat sailed rapidly along. We saw the lands which formed the banks of the river watered by different processes: we examined the canals that conducted the waters to the inland country; we passed in sight of a crowd of little towns surmounted by turrets, and numerous villages more or less ill built of mud, or brick baked in the sun; the ground-floors of most of them were without windows, and in many the door was too low to be entered without stooping; the upper story for the most part

set apart for keeping pigeons, which were to be seen in thousands upon these houses.

We had already passed *Faout*, near which spot stood in ancient times *Mételis*, a city celebrated on account of the women there educated for dancers and singers at public festivals. This country has still retained something of that custom. At this day there come from thence most of those *almées**, who, like the *bayadères*† of India, dance in so lascivious a manner. They go from town to town in Egypt, singing and declaiming, and are a great resource for the harems, where they are introduced in order to amuse the female slaves. After stopping to take in some provisions at *Rhamanié*, where is stationed one of our garrisons, we continued our route, and next day discovered, at the distance of 35 or 40 kilomètres (8 or 9 leagues), the pyramids of *Giza*, which had the appearance of lofty mountains. At length, on the 30th Fructidor (16th September), we arrived at *Cairo*, the capital of Egypt, situated at the foot of the Mokattam chain of mountains, near the banks of the Nile. *Cairo* is an immense city, intersected in every direction by narrow and crooked streets, and containing upwards of three millions of inhabitants‡, composed of a multitude of different sects. It is full of mosques, surmounted by towers;

* Turkish dancers.

† Indian dancers.

‡ The poverty of the greater part of the inhabitants is frightful; I have seen a great number of women and young girls employed in this country as masons' labourers, and

and it contains several irregular squares, adorned with the houses of Beys and Kiaschefs, the internal structure of which is well adapted to the climate.

On our arrival we passed through the city, and at the further extremity were conducted to several houses of the Beys, in one of which is established the Institute, where are lodged, commodiously, and near a very fine garden, all the members of the Commission of Arts and Sciences. Here we rejoined those who had preceded us. Next day we went to wait upon the General in Chief, who received with much kindness and attention those who accompanied him in the expedition. On the morning of the 1st Vendémiaire (22d September) we proceeded in state to the square *Desbèquier*. The *fête* which I have before described took place every day. As I have already mentioned, there were in that square performed in the morning military evolutions, which astonished the inhabitants, in the afternoon horse and foot races, and in the evening fireworks, with a very well managed illumination, after the fashion of the country. On the day following, the General gave us an escort of a hundred men, to protect us against the Bedouin Arabs on our visit to the pyramids. The same evening we crossed the Nile, and proceeded to *Giza*, there to pass the night. After resting at the house of *Murad Bey*, we set out at sun-rise in our barks by a canal passing near the pyramids, which are eighteen kilòmetres (four leagues) from *Giza*, but from
F
their

their enormous size appear to be not more than one league distant. We arrived there at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, after having passed through some fields of maize, and sands of extreme tenuity, at the foot of the hillock formed of ruins piled up round the largest of the three pyramids. We arrived near the canal which leads to the two interior chambers, called the chambers of the Pharaohs; these had already been visited by several of our party. Notwithstanding the excessive heat, which could not be less than 30 degrees, we ascended the steps of the great pyramid*, and in thirty-five minutes arrived at the top. Seated on this pinnacle, where we were oppressed with fatigue, we examined, with a curiosity not unmixed with terror, on one side, the immensity of the Desert, and on the other, the Nile winding through vast and delightful plains; beyond it the rugged chain of the Mokattam mountains running towards the Red Sea; and at a distance the pyramids of *Sakkara*, situated near the plain of the Mummies, opposite to the ancient *Memphis*, and in front of the site of the lake *Mæris*.

We afterwards descended, and proceeded to the two other pyramids, and examined their construction, as we had that of the first. We

* Authors differ materially as to the true dimensions. In order to obtain them correctly, it would be necessary to disencumber these pyramids of the surrounding sand. The largest is reckoned at 222 mètres 73 centimètres (700 feet) base, and 194 mètres 84 centimètres (600 feet) height.

were convinced that all of them were built of calcareous stone, and that the coating which remains on the upper part of the second, is not, as has been hitherto asserted, either of marble or granite, but of calcareous stones, highly polished and well joined. From thence we passed on to the Sphynx, the enormous head and tail of which are together 8 m. 55 c. (26 feet) high; its body, if ever it has been sculptured, is entirely covered with sand. Lastly, we visited a number of tombs, symmetrically excavated in the rock; some of them are curious on account of the sculpture with which they are encircled; and after having contemplated these gigantic monuments, the mute testimonies of ages, these prodigies the offspring of fanaticism or slavery, the antiquity of which was even unknown in the times of Herodotus, we joined our escort in order to return by our boats to *Giza*, carrying with us the memory of impressions that can never be effaced from the minds in which they have been made.

Having returned to *Cairo*, we had occasion on the succeeding days to visit a number of ruins of columns of granite, near a beautiful canal of stone which conveys the water of the Nile to *Cairo*; and others belonging to a castle which adorns the remains of the ancient palace of *Saladin*. Near these is *Joseph's well*, which is dug in the rock 83 m. 77 c. (260 feet) deep, encircled by a staircase of easy descent, that leads to the bottom, hollowed out in

the mafs. This well affords very pure water, fightly brackifh, which is raifed at two operations, by means of oxen placed at its top and its middle. We went to fee the *Michias* or Nilometer, erected at the upper extremity of the charming ifland of *Raouda*, oppofite to *Old Cairo*, a monument facred to the Egyptians, by which they afcertain the different degrees of the rife of the river, by means of a graduated fcale traced on a column placed in the centre of the building. We afterwards vifited *Joseph's granaries*, which are only open pieces of ground divided into vaft fquares, furrounded with brick walls of great thicknefs, with communications contrived between all thefe courts. We proceeded to the public baths, which are very numerous in all the towns in Egypt, and which, although curious, are very far inferior to the accounts given of them by fome authors, principally for this reason, that the water of the bathing-tubs ferves for feveral perfons at one time. Laftly, we had occafion to fee, not at the houfes of the Turks, but at the houfes of feveral of our generals, fome of the female flaves found in the harams after the flight of the Beys, and collected by thefe generals; beauties too much extolled, who are almoft uniformly of an exceffive *embonpoint*, without elegance, grace, or eafe in their deportment.

The caravan had juft arrived from *Abyffinia* with young black female flaves, for the purpofe of fale, in the *bazards* fet apart for that barbarous

barbarous traffic. We went to see these wretched creatures, who, naked, lying on the pavement, and ten or twelve in each apartment, were pounding with stones some corn, in order to make cakes. Unfortunate beings! they rose up at the desire of the bidders, and turned every way, in order to be examined by the indiscreetly curious eye. Several of them were sold to Frenchmen; but General *Buonaparte* made an order to forbid them again being made an article of traffic by the purchasers.

Having examined every thing that was then to be seen at *Cairo*, we waited till favourable circumstances should allow us to proceed, to visit in Upper Egypt the ruins of *Thebes*, with her hundred gates, sung by Homer, and of a number of other ancient cities: the quarries of *Thebais*, out of which were dug those enormous blocks of granite, that seemed to have been transported and placed by giants in the construction of ancient edifices: these obelisks are yet to be met with in some places; several of them at this day adorn the city of Rome. But I could not realize that hope: obliged, from the disordered state of my health, to revisit my country, I prepared for my return, and set out from *Cairo*, with some other Frenchmen, on the 29th Vendémiaire (4th October), at eight o'clock in the evening, the day before the insurrection which I have mentioned in the first part of this narrative. That event took place,
while

while I, peacefully sailing on the Nile, tasted the sweet pleasure of admiring the banks of that river, which was then beginning sensibly to decrease. I saw the inhabitants of the villages assembled on the banks, curiously examining us as we passed; young girls coming in hundreds, to fill large vessels which they carried on their heads, advancing to draw water, and, before going into it, lifting their slight tunic up to their waist, while they carefully concealed their face, sometimes swimming across the river, forming with their clothing a turban round their head; cultivators, conducting ploughs of simple construction, drawn by oxen; young lads, entirely naked, following their labour, and throwing corn into the furrows; beautiful herds of cows and buffaloes, and flocks, both of black and white sheep, covered with the finest fleeces, and having their horns twisted like the horn of Ammon.

At length I arrived at *Rosetta*, having, on an appointed day, joined the caravan, in order again to cross the Desert. We found no longer in this route, wrecks at the fort of *Aboukir*; those of the fleet had disappeared, and we only saw here and there some skeletons of men, partly buried in the sand, and of a shining whiteness. As we passed near the fort of *Aboukir*, the English sent some gunboats to fire upon our caravan, in order to intercept our march, but none of the shot fell within a hundred yards of our party. After

having stopped a few hours near the camp of the naval legion, where we lay upon sand in the heat of noon, and having no shade but that of a few tops of palm-trees, we continued our journey. In the course of the night, by the light of the moon, we had to sustain a pretty sharp conflict with the Arabs of the Desert, who, probably, had learned that one of the camels belonging to the caravan was carrying money to *Alexandria* for the public service. As we were well armed, we dispersed them, keeping up a constant fire from the sides of the square into which we had formed our little battalion, and in the midst of which were placed the camels and asses carrying our baggage. We reached *Alexandria* on the 5th Brumaire (26th October). It was on my arrival at this city that I first heard of the insurrection that had happened at *Cairo*, and its consequences, which were immediately made public in the city, still in a state of agitation from the commotions that had taken place in *Alexandria* itself. At the time of my departure for *Cairo* there were off the ports only the English; I now found them joined by the Russians and Turks, and a few days after, the declaration of war by the Grand Signor was known.

In this situation of things it was become difficult to attempt to return to Europe. We had just learned that the brig *Le Railleur*, carrying sailors back to France, had been taken by the Turks, and the passengers sent to the
galleys

galleys at Rhodes ; that the English, some days before, had burned twenty-five Neapolitan vessels, although neutral, after setting on shore their crews. However, a brig left the harbour with the General's brother on board : two tartans in which some Frenchmen were embarked, and which likewise failed, had been taken by the Turks ; and I myself prepared to leave *Alexandria*. *Dumanoir*, the commandant of the port, gave me a passage in a small tartan, on board of which were a government messenger, three post captains who had been wounded in the engagement, and three other passengers. I embarked, and on the 18th Brumaire (8th November) we set sail from the port of *Alexandria*, at seven o'clock in the evening, leaving at this time, as I have already observed in the first part, the expedition in a satisfactory situation.

We had got clear of the roadstead ; the wind was north-west, and blew fresh ; the vessel, under favour of the darkness of the night, ran through the enemy's cruisers which were blocking up the port in a circumference of several leagues. At four o'clock in the morning we had met with no obstruction. The wind had gradually died away, and it was become a dead calm. Dawn of day was appearing ; a boy was already on the mast-head. He immediately cried out, " I see an enemy's ship astern of us."—" How far is she off ?" " I think a league and a half." We took courage ; the captain ordered the sail to be
brailed

trailed up, the boat to be hoisted out, and to
 tow us away as fast as possible in order to get
 out of sight of the enemy. In fact, we suc-
 ceeded in making our escape before the day
 was well broke. This success inspired us with
 hopes; we had already passed the line of the
 enemy's cruisers; that was enough. For a
 fortnight our voyage was happily as uninter-
 rupted as we could wish. We had passed in
 sight of *Candia* (the ancient *Crete*), very near
Cerigo, *Zante*, and *Cefalonia*, which a few days
 before had, unknown to us, fallen into the
 hands of the Turks and Russians. At length,
 on the 5th Frimaire (25th November), we
 were about to make *Corfu*; we proceeded
 along the coast of *Albania*. A fair wind car-
 ried us into the canal on the north side of the
 island: we were rejoicing in the expectation of
 there learning news of our country, which is
 so grateful to the mind after being some time
 absent. We stood on boldly in a pretty thick
 fog till about ten in the morning, when the
 sun began to dispel the vapours; and we then
 perceived about the harbour, instead of ours,
 Russian and Turkish ships of war. "Heavens!"
 cried the captain of the tartan, "we are in the
 hands of barbarians!" After the first moment
 of terror, however, we took courage, and, in-
 stead of retiring, which would intallibly have
 betrayed us, we edged away towards the coast,
 opposite to some wind-mills, hoping that,
 from the appearance of our little vessel, the
 Russians and Turks would take us for Greeks,
 fishing,

fishing, or carrying on a little trade: this scheme succeeded, they did not send any boat or vessel after us, and we lay at anchor till the evening; we left the canal during the night, and the wind being nearly contrary, continued our course by short tacks. Towards morning we discovered a vessel near us, which gave us fresh uneasiness; we thought we had been seen getting under way, and that an enemy's vessel was chasing us; we stood towards the coast, in order to run on shore; daylight, however, soon satisfied us that it was a merchantman steering towards the Adriatic.

Not having been able to learn at *Corfu* the situation of France with respect to the neighbouring states, we resolved to land at the extremity of Italy, notwithstanding our fears that war might be commenced with Naples, which would have exposed us to be taken prisoners, or perhaps worse, as some weeks afterwards the Sicilians massacred the ordonnateur *Sucy*, and the unfortunate sick Frenchmen who were returning to their country. The wind being unfavourable, we thought it best to take advantage of it to proceed towards *Dalmatia*, in order to reach the port of *Ragusa*, where we had a consul; we passed near the mouths of the *Cattaro*, at which place, about the same time, the captain and a party of sailors belonging to a small French vessel had, immediately on their landing, been assassinated by the inhabitants of the coast.

At

At length we arrived at *Ragusa*, on the 9th Frimaire (29th November), at six o'clock in the morning; the captain and two of our people went in the boat to attend the office of health, and inquired for the French Consul, who came and informed us that hostilities had just at that moment been commenced between us and the Neapolitans; that we were at peace with the Emperor, and he believed the port of *Ancona* was free. He procured us a pilot to take us through the islands of *Dalmatia*, recommended to us to be on our guard against the pirates that infested them, and told us that the day before one of them came into the port with a prize of a vessel belonging to *Corfu*; we thanked him, took on board some provisions (particularly excellent *Zara Marefquino*), and sailed for our destined port. Next day, in the evening, we met with a squall, which obliged us to run for shelter into the port of *Lefina*, belonging to the Emperor; we entered it at seven o'clock in the evening. In this harbour we lay alongside a small vessel carrying six guns, which had the appearance of a privateer: as we had no arms or means of defence, we considered ourselves in greater danger than we had at any time hitherto been. The captain of this vessel asked us fiercely who we were? whence we came? and whither we were bound? We made some hesitation in answering positively, but promised the next day we should give him all the particulars he desired; it was our intention

intention to get under way during the night, and make our escape. He told the captain of our tartan that he must immediately come on board, and give an account of himself; this our captain at length resolved to do, not, however, without uneasiness; we much resembled the lamb in the fable, which said, "My lord, I do not wish to trouble your water." But what an agreeable surprise! it was a French vessel, the passengers of which were likewise not without their fears; on board was General *Bellair*, who was proceeding to *Corfu* with some officers, in order to take the command of the fortress; like us, he had been obliged to put in on account of the bad weather. We informed him of the situation of *Corfu*, of which he was ignorant; of the manner in which the harbour was blocked up, so that he might take the most prudent measures for avoiding his enemies. On his side, he told us that he had left *Ancona* three days before; that that port was free, and protected by two ships of war which were cruising off the road, and that we might land there without fear: we considered ourselves fortunate in this meeting, by which we were fully instructed how we were now to proceed. Next day we left *Lefina*, and with a very favourable wind and fine weather we ended our voyage, and entered the harbour of *Ancona* on the 14th Frimaire (4th December), at eight o'clock in the morning.

The

The same day we repaired to the Lazaretto, in order to perform quarantine; we were there kept shut up with a number of people. The half of the building was appropriated to the reception of Neapolitan prisoners, which were brought in by hundreds, and were marched on to *Milan* when they had rested a few days after their fatigue; the same place also served as a prison for the refractory priests, who in different parts of Italy had preached up the massacre of the French, so that we found this stay extremely disagreeable; to this, twelve degrees of cold, three feet of snow, and the want of fire in our confined cells, were no small addition. But our troubles came to an end: we left the Lazaretto at the end of thirty days, and after we had mutually embraced, we took each of us the route we found most convenient. I travelled through Italy by *Bologna*, *Milan*, *Turin*, and *Mount Cenis*, and re-entered my dear country, taking the road to *Paris*, where I arrived the 30th Pluviôse, in the 7th year (18th February 1799).

END OF THE SECOND PART.

L I S T
OF THE
MEN OF SCIENCE AND ARTISTS ATTACHED
TO THE EXPEDITION.

GEOMETRY.—Citizens Fourier, Costas, Corancez, Charbaud, Devilliers, Viard, Vincent, Say.

Astronomy.—Nouet, Quenot, Mechain the younger, Dangos.

Mechanics.—Monge, Conté, Maisières, Cecile, Aînés the elder and younger, Caffard, Lenoir, Cirot, Couvreur, Hassenfratz the younger; Favier, Dubois.

Watchmaking.—Lemaître, Thomas.

Chemistry.—Berthollet, Descoftilles, Samuel Bernard, Regnault, Champy the elder and younger, Poltier, Pignat.

Mineralogy.—Dolomieu, Cordier, Rosier, Nepoen, Victor Depuy.

Botany.—Delille, Coquebert, Nectou.

Zoology.—Geoffroy, Savigny, Ducharnoy, Gérard, Redouté.

Surgery.—Dubois, Labate, Lacipière, Dubois the younger, Pouqueville, Bessières.

Pharmacy.—Boudet, Roguin, Royer.

Antiquities.—Pourlier, Ripault.

Architecture.—Norry, Balzac, Protain, Lepère.

Draftsmen.—Dutertre, Rigo, Baudouin, Joly.

Civil Engineers.—Lepère, Girard, Bodard, Gratian, Lepère, Saint-Genis, Debaudre, Duval, Faye, Lancret, Fèvre, Jollois, Thévenot, Chabrolle, Raffeneau, Arnolet, Hyacinte Lepère, Panuzen.

Geographers.—Lafeuillade, Ledue, Lévêque, Bourgeois, Faurie, Benazet, Corabœuf, Dulion, Jomard, Leceſne, Laroche, Bertre, Polier, Gressis, Boucher, Chaumond, Jacquotin, Têvelide.

Printing.—Marcel, Puntis, Laugier, Eberhart, Besson, Boulangée, Boyer, Jardin, Rivet, Véry, Dubois, Granſart, Marlet, Lethioux, Caſtera.

NAMES OF THE MEMBERS COMPOSING THE INSTITUTE OF EGYPT.

Mathematics.—Citizens Andréoſſi, Buonaparte, Coſtas, Fourier, Girard, Lepère, Leroi, Malus, Monge, Nouet, Quéſnot, Say.

Natural Philosophy.—Berthollet, Champy, Conté, Delille, Deſcoſtelles, Deſgenettes, Dolomieu, Dubois, Geoffroy, Savigny.

Political Economy.—Caſſarelli, Gloutier, Pouſſielque, Sulkouſki, Sucy, Tallien.

Literature and the Fine Arts.—Denon, Duterre, Norry, Parſeval, Redouté, Rigel, Venture, Rigo, D. Raphael.

At the firſt meeting *Monge* was elected preſident, *Buonaparte* vice-preſident, *Fourier* ſecretary, and *Coſtat* aſſiſtant-ſecretary.

DESCRIP-

DESCRIPTION

or

POMPEY'S PILLAR.

THE small number of admeasurements that have been hitherto given of Pompey's Pillar, and those having been often indicated in the most uncertain manner by the different authors who have written upon it, Citizens *Dutertre*, *Protin*, *Lepère*, and myself, determined, before quitting *Alexandria*, to ascertain all its proportions. The commandant of the port, Citizen *Dumanoir*, whom we had engaged to facilitate the means for this purpose, in causing to be prepared for us on board of his ship some slings and ropes, was anxious to second our views. On the 14th Fructidor (31st August 1798), at five o'clock in the morning, we repaired to that monument with an escort; we began our operation by flying a paper kite*, of about four feet in height, having a second cord of an indefinite length, fixed at the same place as the other string, and which was laid hold of by one of us, when the kite was passed above and beyond

* This means had been employed some years before.

the

the capital; so that in drawing this cord the kite descended to the ground, and was then separated; we had then the cord passed over the capital of the column, in the manner of a cord passing over the circumference of a pulley. This first operation being finished, we fastened to one of the ends of that cord another still stronger, and to that again a third capable of bearing more than the weight of a man. A sailor was hoisted up to the capital. He began by throwing down a flag of hammered iron, erected on that place in 1789, by *Fauvel*, a French artist; on that flag was marked the total height of the monument, namely, 88 feet 9 inches. When the sailor had fastened strongly the ropes about the volutes upon the angles, and carefully fixed a sling, I seated myself upon a small bench suspended to the rope, and was immediately hoisted up; Citizen *Protin* ascended after me, and we measured together all the parts of the capital; in the mean time Citizens *Lepère* and *Dutertre* took all the measures of the base and pedestal. We then took the total height, which corresponded to that of *Fauvel* within eight centimètres (three inches nearly), it being 28 mètres 73 centimètres (88 feet six inches). There only remained to measure the diameters of the column at different heights; in order to effect this, we had placed a square of about five feet each arm, with a diagonal which moved in a groove, and divided the angle into two parts, and which could be pushed forward

or drawn back at pleasure, so as to touch the circumference at each place where the square embraced horizontally the shaft of the column; by means of which, in considering the hypotenuse of each of the triangles which the length of the diagonal determined as sides of octagons, we found the different circles inscribed on these octagons, and consequently the diameters. In order to perform this with precision, the person who applied the square to the different parts of the shaft held the level on the square, which the others assisted him to place horizontally, lowering, or raising at pleasure from the top of the column, the extremities of the two arms, where were fixed two cords. By these different processes we took the measurement with great exactness. Several members of the Commission of the Arts were present at the operation, and most of them were afterwards hoisted up to the top of this enormous capital, on which six or seven of us stood at one time.

It remains for me to add a few words, respecting the situation, division, principal dimensions, nature of the substance, proportions and duration of this monument.

It is situated on a gentle eminence, and placed on a sub-base which the barbarians have undercut, leaving only a newel of one mètre 28 centimètres (four feet six inches) square as its only support. This newel is formed of a fragment of an Egyptian monument which appears to be of the nature of a siliceous substance,

stance, and which has itself been brought to that place, as the hieroglyphics on it are reversed. On examining the part cut away below the pedestal, it is easy to discover that an equal pressure upon the foundation has occasioned the column to incline 21 centimètres, and it is undoubtedly owing to this that there is a deep rent of about four mètres 87 centimètres (15 feet) in length, in the lower part of the shaft of the column.

This monument is of the Corinthian order, and is divided into four parts—the pedestal, base, shaft, and capital. From there being a circle of 2 m. 2 c. (six feet three inches) diameter, and sunk 6 c. (two inches) it would appear that there has been formerly on the top of it a pedestal, upon which was placed, probably, the statue of the hero to whose memory this column was erected; but this is only conjecture.

The pedestal is 3 m. 24 c. (ten feet) in height; the base 1 m. 78 c. (five feet six inches three lines), the shaft 20 m. 48 c. (63 feet one inch three lines), the capital 3 m. 21 c. (nine feet 10 inches six lines). The diameter of the column is 2 m. 70 c. (eight feet four inches) at the lower part, and 2 m. 49 c. (seven feet two inches eight lines) near the astragal; the total height, as I have already mentioned, is 28 m. 73 c. (88 feet six inches)*. All

* Citizen *Cassas*, who is just now publishing his travels in Egypt, Syria, and Dalmatia, has requested me to com-

All the parts of the monument are of Thebaic granite.

Although this order may in some measure be considered as Corinthian, from its capital, it is not of Grecian proportions ; for the shaft is nearer to the Ionic. Besides, it is evident that the different parts of which it consists are the production of different ages. The shaft, which is of an admirable form, and of very fine polish, except on the side towards the Desert, that has suffered from the sand, appears to be the workmanship of the Greeks, probably under the *Ptolomies* ; the other parts are evidently inferior. The profiles are pretty similar to those of the lower empire of the Romans. The capital is but grossly embossed, the pedestal is exceedingly low, and the colour of the granite even is different from that of the shaft. It is therefore reasonable to suppose that this shaft having been made prior to the other parts, has been re-erected at some extraordinary epoch. It is probably the largest column of a single block in the world. It is much to be regretted that the inscription which was upon one of the sides of the pedestal is not legible, as it would clear up the uncertainty of this monument, which some authors attri-

municate to him such of the measures as he had not taken himself, in order to be annexed to his engraving of this monument, and which will be inserted in one of his next Numbers. It will be seen that all the measures which he has taken differ little from ours.

bute

bute to the memory of *Pompey*, and others to that of *Septimius Severus*.*

* The difficulty of representing on the drawing of the basin the numerous characters and figures, and of giving the explanation of them, determined me to give an account only of the dimensions, and an outline of the vertical and transversal bands engraved in the material, and on which the characters are placed.

THE END.

This Day is Published,

**THE
FRENCH EXPEDITION**

TO

SYRIA:

COMPREHENDING

General BONAPARTE'S Letters—General
BERTHIER'S Narrative—and Sir SIDNEY
SMITH'S Letters, from the London
Gazette.

WITH

PREFATORY OBSERVATIONS.

THE SECOND EDITION.

Price 3s.